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November, 1998

Volume XXIX, No. 10

FREE

## Open Space Funding Freezeout Shocks Esprit Park Backers

By Judy Baston

Despite a promise from Mayor Willie Brown in July that the City would ensure the purchase of Potrero Hill's Esprit Park within the next year and a half, the recommendations issued in late September by the staff of the committee that handles open space allocations contained no funding for the Esprit Park purchase.

The recommendations came as a shock to activists in the effort to raise enough funds to purchase the Minnesota Street parkland. Many thought that with the money that had been allocated so far, and especially with the Mayor's words of support, that they were well on their way to reaching their goal this year.

When new owners took over the Esprit Corporation several years ago, their initial asking price for the parkland was \$4 million. As a result of efforts by supporters of purchasing the area for public use, the corporation has indicated it would be willing to sell the park for this purpose for \$2 million.

Essentially half that amount has already been guaranteed from the City's Open Space Fund and other sources as part of a process in which funds are "banked" each year towards a financial goal.

The 23-member Park and Open Space Citizens Advisory Committee receives staff recommendations and then holds hearings on them. Hearings on the renovation section are expected to last into December or January, to be followed by hearings on acquisitions and development, the section that includes the matter of the Esprit Park allocation.

Deborah Lerner, City Park and Recreation Dept. Planner who works with the Open Space Committee, told *The Potrero View* that it is her understanding that the staff recommendations were made in the belief that another source of funding for Esprit Park was expected to be available in the coming year.

And Open Space Committee Co-Chair Ron Miguel told *The View* that "I am personally waiting for a definitive report from the Trust for Public Land, which is involved."

Miguel, a 22-year Potrero Hill resident, said the demand for committee funding reflects a number of government constraints, such as the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) as well as a current economic climate in which construction bids routinely exceed initial estimates and a number of jobs that have already begun cannot be finished until additional funds are allocated to cover costs.

The King Pool in Hunters Point will take another million for emergency repairs, he pointed out. Play areas whose repairs were given the green light by staff in the renovations section of the budget included Mission Dolores at 18th and Dolores Streets; Sgt. McCauley at Larkin and O'Farrell Streets;

and Visitation Valley on Raymond Street.

Another member of the Open Space Committee, Bette Landis, attended the Esprit fundraiser in July, and noted, "The Mayor was very realistic. If we can't come up with money this year, the park may well be in jeopardy.

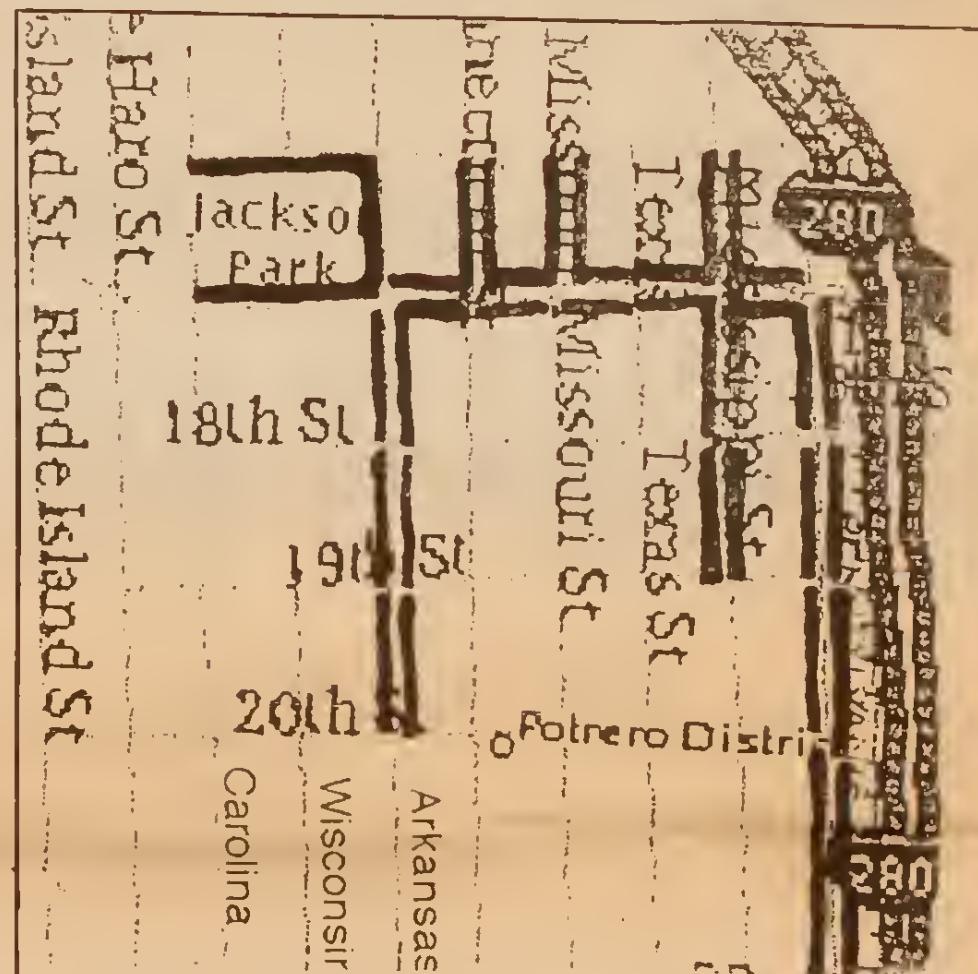
"We may lose the park if we don't buy it," she told *The View*, "because there are so many demands for live-work space."

Landis is serving her second stint on the Open Space Committee. During her first, on the body, she noted, staff recommendations were not made until the committee had taken testimony from various parties and had conducted investigations. Since she has returned to the committee, she pointed out, the process has begun with a staff recommendation.

"There's still a lot of action to be taken on this issue," she said, adding, "and I intend to put my two cents worth in."

Friends of Esprit Park are asking neighborhood residents to write to Mayor Willie Brown urging him to get involved in efforts to ensure the purchase of the park land from the Esprit Corporation.

## PERMIT PARKING PLAN



Permit parking is currently being proposed for those streets shown in bold. (See story below.)

## Hillers Now Gathering Signatures To Establish Permit Parking Plan

Signatures are currently being gathered to establish permit parking in the northeastern part of Potrero Hill.

"With the development of the ballpark, Mission Bay and UCSF, Potrero Hill is preparing for an overwhelming invasion of parking," stressed longtime Hill resident Babette Drefke, who is coordinating the permit parking drive.

(The area being proposed for permit parking is shown on the map above.)

"The concentration of commercial activities in the area of the new ballpark and Mission Bay North retail blocks will

cause parking shortages because of the imbalance between parking supply and demand," Drefke noted, adding, "as these areas develop parking problems will be felt by residents and businesses, as already evidenced by the growing present-day parking problems on the Hill."

Drivers, she predicted, "will walk a considerable distance if moderately priced or free parking is available. Unless precautions are taken, Potrero Hill can expect to be severely affected by traffic and parking overload generated by Giants ballgames and other events at Pacific Bell Park."

With the ballpark set to open in the year 2000, residents of blocks likely to be used for parking by ball park fans are moving ahead to gather signatures of those who want parking permits.

If the permit is established for the proposed area, it will cost \$27 per year. It will not be mandatory for residents in the area, but vehicles without the permit will have to vacate a non-metered parking space after a designated period — one or two hours.

Drefke is asking all those who are currently collecting signatures to submit them to her or to call her at 282-5919 as soon as all available signatures have been collected.

Next step in the process will be for the petitions to go through the Dept. of Public Works Engineering Division, then a commission review, a public hearing with pro and con debate, a Board of Supervisors vote, and then to the Mayor. The entire process usually takes from five to six months.

If permit parking is approved for a street, DPT will notify all residents of the street by mail. Any residents whose streets are not currently included in the proposed area, or those who want to become involved, may contact Drefke for more information.

IN OUR VIEW  
ELECTION RECOMMENDATIONS  
—SEE PAGE TWO

MORE

CORPORATE  
EMBLEMS  
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SOON AT  
A SPORTS  
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200-FOOT CUP OF CAPUCCINO. FOAMS OVER WITH  
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EVERY HOME RUN.FROM PFIZER, THE  
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VIAGRA MONUMENT...

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AW,  
SHUCKS!

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## GETTING INVOLVED

**ROSES** (Residents of the Southeast Sector) meets the first Thursday of each month (Nov. 5) with members of the San Francisco Police Department, to discuss issues of public concern. The Forum takes place at 7 p.m. in the Community Facility downstairs at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps. This month's meeting will introduce the new police chief for the Bayview Police Station, Capt. Ron Roth. Refreshments after the Forum.

**Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board** meets the second Monday of the month (Nov. 9) from 6-7 p.m. Meetings, held at the Center at 1050 Wisconsin Street, are open to the public.

**Potrero Hill Democratic Club** meets the second Tuesday of each month (Nov. 10). The meetings start at 7 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Llano St. The meeting this month will focus on the election results, with invited speakers.

**St. Nick King Park Board of Directors** meets the second Wednesday evening of each odd-numbered month (next meeting: Nov. 11) at 7 p.m., in the Potrero Hill Library upstairs meeting room, 1616 - 20th Street. The Saturday work parties, 10 a.m. until noon, will continue every month on the 3rd Saturday (Nov. 21). On Nov. 7 the group plans to purchase a large number of native seedlings from the California Society for Native Plants. These will be planted during the Sat. work party, Nov. 21. Visitors and helpers welcome. The park is located at Carolina and 23rd.

**PLAN** (Potrero League of Active Neighbors) meets in executive session only this month. Anyone wishing to raise an issue for consideration by the board may phone Elizabeth at 826-6359.

**Potrero Hill Boosters Neighborhood Assn.** meets the last Tuesday of the month (Nov. 24) at 7 p.m. in the Potrero Hill Library, 1616 - 20th Street.

**Potrero Hill Garden Club** meets the last Sunday of the month (Nov. 29) at 11 a.m. for a potluck brunch in a local home or garden. Informal discussion will be held on a variety of subjects relating to organic, edible or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's particular mini-climate. Please call 648-6740 for details.

DON'T FORGET  
TO VOTE!



EDITOR: Ruth Passen

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Judy Baston

EDITORIAL BOARD: Vas Arnautoff (1925-1998), Judy Baston, Ruth Passen  
NOVEMBER STAFF / Lysa Allman, Judy Baston, Kelly Castagnaro, Linda Clark, Maya Ulloa-Charbonneau, Michael Dingle, Bernie Gershater, Larry Gonick, Abby Johnston, Ann Longknife, Mary Louise Lovett, Winifred Mann, Denise Meblin-Kessler, Carol Peterson, Julia Segrove and Lester Zeidman.

Editorial and policy decisions are made by the staff. All staff positions are voluntary.

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## IN OUR VIEW

## ELECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

## CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

## STATE PROPOSITIONS

Governor Gray Davis  
Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamonte  
Secretary of State: Michael Alioto  
Controller: Kathleen Connell  
Attorney General: Bill Lockyer  
Insurance Commissioner: Diane Martinez  
Board of Equalization: Johan Klehs  
US Senator: Barbara Boxer  
US Representative: Nancy Pelosi  
State Assembly: Coralee Mignen

1A CLASS SIZE REDUCTION	YES
1 PROPERTY TAXES	YES
2 TRANSPORTATION	YES
3 PRIMARY ELECTIONS	YES
4 ANIMAL TRAPS	YES
5 TRIBAL GAMING	YES
6 HORSEMEAT BAN	YES
7 TAX CREDITS	N/R
8 PUBLIC SCHOOLS	NO
9 ELECTRIC UTILITIES	YES
10 TOBACCO SURTAX	YES
11 REVENUE SHARING	N/R

State Supreme Court Justice:  
Stanley Mosk - yes

State Appeals Court Justice:  
Daniel Honan - yes

State Superintendent of Public  
Instruction: Delaine Eastin

Board of Supervisors:  
Tom Ammiano  
Victor Morquez  
Denise D'Anne

Community College Board:  
Robert Burton

Board of Education:  
Dan Kelly  
Mouricio E. Vela  
Eddie Chin

## LOCAL PROPOSITIONS

A POLICE PENSIONS	YES
B CUSTOMER PLAN	N/R
C PARAMEDIC PENSIONS	YES
D TAXI COMMISSION	YES
E CENTRAL FREEWAY	YES
F ADMISSION TAX	YES
G EVICTION PROTECTION	YES
H HOTEL TAX SURCHARGE	YES
I BRIDGE RAIL SERVICE	YES
J HEALTH CARE PLAN	YES

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

N/R=No Recommendation

LETTERS

## Jackson Park Programs

## Vote of Confidence

## Editor:

Renovation of the children's play area at Jackson Playground has begun. This project is scheduled to last about six months (the length of the contract), although the contractor has said he would like to have the project completed by the end of January, 1999.

Also, the field area is going to be shut down as well, because of renovation to the infields. This will begin on Tuesday, October 27, and I am not sure as to how long this will take.

I am also going to start the Pee Wee sports program once again and this will start on Thursday Dec. 3, at 3:30 p.m. I will be teaching children, ages 5-9 years of age, the basics in baseball, basketball, soccer, and football. This instruction will be very low key, with the basic element of fun included.

I would also like to inform those children of the preteen and teen-age years that I will be taking sign-ups for the forthcoming basketball season. Please call (415) 554-9527 if you have any further questions or come by Jackson to sign-up.

Gary Siri  
Director at Jackson Playground

## Editor:

Festival '98 was unlike any festival I have seen in San Francisco. It was the first community event that merchants decided to hold in the community as a fundraiser to benefit the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House!

The Nabe is a non-profit agency serving those in greatest need, from the cradle to the grave. Need can mean lots of things, and this is a community that is willing to lend a helping hand to each other. We experience this daily at the house, which seems to be a home away from home for all who enter.

The Board of Directors, staff and clients feel overwhelmed by the generosity of the Potrero Hill Merchants Assn., the time, work and money that went into the effort will forever be appreciated.

Even more than the money and good will, it's a vote of confidence.

Enola D. Maxwell  
Executive Director  
Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

**ONE PRIVILEGED CLASS: CHILOREN**

According to the educator Jonathan Kozol, in his book "Children of the Revolution," the Cubans have a saying that there is only one privileged class in their country — the children. At the Potrero Branch Library, putting children first has actually had some big benefits for adult patrons in such a way that the interests of the two classes of patrons are complementary. Recent acquisition of some new equipment illustrates how this works.

We have wanted for several years to maximize shelf space by purchasing magazine storage and display racks for our adult periodicals collection. Due to budget constraints, we expected this to take several years. Thanks to a purchase using the library's own materials and equipment budget, a grant from the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, and a gift from Anchor Brewing Company, we were able to purchase the storage and display racks.

This purchase meant that we could free up the existing periodicals display for use in the children's room where it now serves three purposes. On one side of the rack young readers can find current juvenile periodicals. On the other we have decided to display single-column children's reference books, many of which have beautifully-designed and attractive covers which were previously hidden because they were shelved spine out.

The display itself proves to be an excellent sound barrier, and helps to cut down noise from the children's room that some adult patrons have found distracting.

We will utilize the Parent Education collection shelf for holiday books and give the Parent Education collection a table where browsers may read, and a rack to house the binders that make up that collection. Ephemeral materials are now neatly displayed in one of the former children's magazine racks, so that the table holding them in front of the library mural could be moved, making the mural more visible.

The resulting effect is one of more aisle space in the adult reading room, making it airier and less stuffy, but more filled with resource of interest to both children and adults. The children's room is more of a children's enclave, more separate from the adult reading room — better-organized — but cozier and more inviting.

Thanks for the hard work of Deborah Cornue, Assistant Chief of Branches at San Francisco Public Library; Margie O'Oriscoll of the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library; and to Fritz Maytag and Phil Rogers of Anchor Brewing, whose interest in upgrading the Children's Room prompted some of the thinking and planning of this project.

Thanks also to the staff here for their suggestions, ideas and help in making the changes. They are: Amelia Martin, Library Technician; Nell Jehu, Library Technical Assistant; and Craig Caldwell, Ricardo Cisneros, Lisa Franks and Steve Patapoff, Library Pages. We look forward to holding a "Housewarming" in January to introduce the changes to you, the public. Meanwhile, if you have any questions about the library's new arrangement, feel free to ask any member of our staff.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### POTRERO BRANCH

1616 20th St. • 695-6640

**Closed Monday**  
 Tuesday: 10 am - 9 pm  
 Wednesday: 1 pm - 9 pm  
 Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm  
 Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm  
 Saturday: Noon - 6 pm

#### CHILOREN'S POETRY EVENT DECEMBER 9

In partnership with Starr King Elementary School and Children's Book Press, the Potrero Library will host an Encuentro/Encounter on Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. with Maya Christina Gonzalez, illustrator of the bilingual-book of poetry for children entitled "From the Bellybutton of the Moon/Del Ombliga de la Luna," by Francisco X. Alarcon.

Gonzalez will introduce children from Starr King Elementary School on Potrero Hill, who have written poetry in workshops there, led by Alarcon. Their poetry will be on display for the month of December here at the library. Refreshments will be provided courtesy of Children's Book Press.

#### SHAPE UP FOR "SHAPING SAN FRANCISCO"

On Saturday, Nov. 21, at 2 p.m., join us for "Shaping San Francisco," a multi-media presentation by labor archivist Chris Carlson, which draws on the city's rich labor history, with a special focus on Potrero Hill.

#### CHILOREN'S PROGRAMS

Infant and Toddler Lapsit for children up to two years old takes place on Thursdays, Nov. 12 and 19 at 10:30 a.m. Story Time for children, ages three to five, takes place on Nov. 18 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. The library is closed on Nov. 11 in observance of Veteran's Day. The pre-school film, "The Cat Came Back," will be shown on Tuesday, Nov. 3, at 10 a.m., and Wednesday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m.

#### HOLIDAY STAMP CRAFTS PROGRAM FOR CHILOREN WITH ARIC MILLS

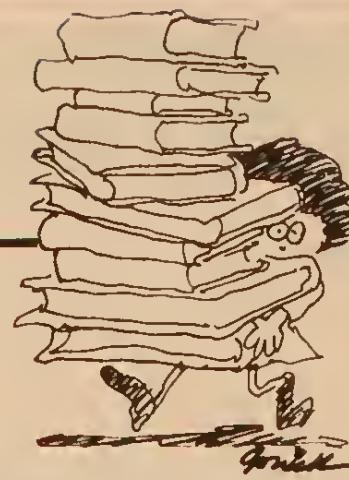
Make holiday cards using rubber stamp art! This program, led by artist Aric Mills, will take place on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 4 p.m.

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER

\* Ocker, Susan J. "Languages in America: a pluralist view." A vigorous response to the point of view that the diversity of language new immigrants bring with them to the U.S. is a threat to the American way of life.

\* Thomson, Rupert. "Aoft!" At once a literary thriller of dazzling velocity and a portrait of contemporary London that invites comparison with the best work of Martin Amis.

\* Chang, Lan Samantha. "Hunger: a novella and stories." This debut by a local author explores the fraught legacies of Chinese immigrants who try to forget their origins in order to fit into a new culture. Comparisons to Amy Tan



are unavoidable, but also insufficient to describe this darker, more piercing young writer.

\* Shaykh, Hanan. "I Sweep the Sun off Rooftops: stories." In a collection of 17 exquisitely calibrated stories, this noted Lebanese writer explores the lives of Arabs living on the cusp of modernity. These finely-honed stories glow with empathy and intelligence.

\* Saramago, Jose. "Blindness: a novel" Embattled relationships among people of a city mysteriously struck by an epidemic of blindness form the core of this superb novel by an internationally-

claimed Portuguese author. Concise, haunting prose — excellent choice for a book club discussion.

\* Wozencraft, Ken. "The Catch." The wife of a drug dealer struggles in vain to make a safe life for her family in the author's second, triumphant novel. Brilliantly exposes the horror and stupidity behind America's drug wars in a sizzling novel that tops her debut.

\* Alexis, Andre. "Childhood: a novel." A solitary, middle-aged man recalls the complexities of his childhood and the loss of those who peopled it. Trinidadian Canadian Alexis brings his skill to bear in a novel that delivers lasting delight in an elegant work.

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER FOR CHILOREN

\* Carle, Eric. "Catch the Ball!" \* Hafer, Jan C. and Robert M. Wilson. "Come Sign With Us!" \* Paulsen, Gary. "My Life in Dog Years" \* Randunsky, Valdmir and Eugenia. "Yucka Drucka DRoni" \* Auch, Mary Jane. "I Was a Third Grade Science Project"

Toba Singer  
Branch Librarian

# TEN YEARS AGO

*In The View*

#### FEDERAL FUNDS CUT FORCE OCECREASE IN CLINIC STAFF

Cutbacks in federal funding in 1988 forced the Caled Clark Clinic to lay off two of three medical clerks, and the third left because of the increased workload. The lab technician, janitor and driver/messenger were also laid off, and the dental technician was cut back to one-third time. Meetings were under way to see if federal funding could be reestablished and to determine if the City could help with the funding.

#### PAST TRACK PALTTERS FOR STADIUM/ARENA PROPOSALS

Planning Commission concerns about the effect of a stadium on the Mission Bay development slowed down the progress of the proposed stadium at Second and King Streets and the proposed arena at Seventh and Townsend.

#### MISSOURI HOMEPORTING THREATENS HUNTERS POINT ARTISTS

The proposal to homeport the battleship Missouri at the Hunters Point Shipyard could result in the eviction of the many artists and small businesses who have subleased their space from the Triple A Shipyard, which was the master tenant under the United States Navy. When Triple A moved to the East Bay, the tenants had to deal directly with the Navy. Homeporting would have caused the cancellation of the subleases.

#### NEW RENTAL COMPLEX OPENS

Once the site of the Dutch Boy Paint Company ("We Cover the World"), and the drug rehabilitation center run by Synanon, the full city block property bounded by Kansas, Rhode Island, 23rd and 24th Streets opened as Potrero Court, with 123 rental units. Financed with tax-exempt municipal bonds, the development was required to set aside 27 apartments for low-income families and individuals. It contained 20 three bedroom units, 12 studio apartments and 40 two bedroom units.

#### HILL ARCHIVES PROJECT CALLS FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Potrero Hill Archives Project was started in an effort to preserve the personal side of history. The Project keeps a list of residents interested in telling their own stories, and members of the project are given advice to help in conducting their interviews.

#### ACCIDENT CLAIMS "OLD MIKE" JABIN

"Old Mike" Michael John Jabin came to Potrero Hill the year after the great 1906 earthquake, along with many other Molokan families who left Russia because of religious persecution. He went to work at the age of 12, after his father was killed in a shipyard accident, and became a machinist and wood finisher, a founding member of the Wood Finishers Union and a member of the Int'l. Assn. of Machinists. He retired in his seventies but kept active repairing his house and cars. He died in a fall from his roof on Oct. 13, 1988, just one month before his 90th birthday.

#### VIEW SOFTBALLERS LOSE MEDIA TITLE IN LAYOFFS

The Tenderloin Times beat The Potrero View softball team in a doubleheader, 14-10 and 13-10 to win the 1988 Bay Area Media League softball championship. The View had a 10-5 win-loss record during the regular season.

#### HILLER PUBLISHES MUNI DRIVERS' TALES

Alan Allen, (actually a houseboat dweller at China Basin) self-published a book of "true" stories told to him by Muni drivers, about the crazies, the vagrants, the druggies and the "regular people" who ride the transit system every day.

#### ANO TWENTY YEARS AGO . . .

The View endorsed Jerry Brown for Governor, Yvonne Braithwaite for Attorney General, Phil Burton for Congress and Art Agnos for Assembly . . . Chet Helms, one of the prime movers of the rock concerts of the '60s, had his office at 18th and Missouri, and organized "The Stomp," a concert conceived as a reunion of the best 60s rock groups . . . Want ad: "NEEDED: Strong shoulders or roto-tiller for disaster garden" . . . Nina Gershater, LVN, wrote a front-page piece about low morale among employees at San Francisco General Hospital . . . Radha Bontwright opened a bookstore in the former laundrette at 18th and Connecticut . . . The Pickle Family Circus offered a six-week workshop in "circus-related gymnastics."

— Bernie Gershater

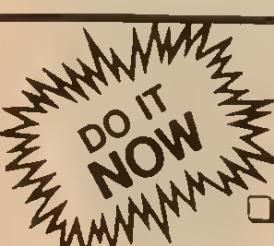
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## Lifelong Hill Resident Charlie Sabella Dies at 83

Charles J. Sabella, longtime and well-known Potrero Hill resident, died October 11 at 83.

Farewell, dear Charles . . . Charles Sabella was the type of man who would make an overcoat pathway in a puddle of water for a lady to cross, literally give you the shirt off his back. He was a jack of all trades and a master of all. As "Charlie" aged, he always maintained a youthful, active mind. He was up to date on the most recent computer technology, an avid reader and had a heart of gold.

Charlie grew up on the Hill. He was an accomplished musician, and a member of the Musician's Union, Local 6 for more than 60 years. He once owned a TV repair store on the Hill, and in his youth broke city records in track and field.

He was a regular at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House Senior Program and a day never went by that Charlie didn't have some pastry goodies for the entire House, or kind and helpful words for someone.

His ashes will be placed at sea during a private ceremony Nov. 21.

A memorial gathering in his honor will be held at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St. on Sunday, Dec. 6, from 2-4 p.m. For more information call 647-6197.

For those of us who have known and loved Charlie, our lives are a whole lot sweeter . . . farewell, dear Charles.

Lori Jean Robinson

## Organizers Sought To Canvass Hill For Tree Planting

Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) is seeking organizers to canvass the Potrero Hill area in preparation for 1999 tree plantings.

Cost of planting a tree through FUF is \$25 each, as opposed to \$300 for those who do it on their own, the organization points out. The FUF plan also is subsidized by special funding from the city.

To qualify for the program, a minimum number of residences in an area must sign up. "A few volunteer hours a week will result in a greener, more beautiful and healthful neighborhood," FUF stresses.

The organization notes that trees absorb traffic noise, block wind, help clean the air, make streets more attractive, and increase property value.

To get a planting started, call Susan Tibon at Friends of the Urban Forest, 561-6890, ext. 104. To get a tree planted in front of your apartment, house or business, call Potrero Hill organizer Jamie O'Donnell at 552-1515.



Charles Sabella in a 1950's photograph.



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Youth MUNI: \$8.00

For more information, call  
826-8080

**Potrero Hill Neighborhood House**  
953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California 94107  
(415) 826-8080  
Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

**ON-GOING MEETINGS:**

- Al-Anon . . . Thursdays, 6:30 pm
- Alcoholics Anonymous . . . Sun, Mon 8:00 pm/Thurs, 8:30 pm
- Girls/Boys Club . . . Mondays, 4:00 pm
- Narcotics Anonymous . . . Wednesdays, 8:00 pm
- Omega Boys Club . . . Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

**FACILITIES:**

- Auditorium for theatre presentations, lectures, weddings, workshops and receptions
- Bulletin board with employment and event listings
- Gymnasium and recreational space
- Meeting spaces available for use by community groups
- Mini-park

**ACTIVITIES & SERVICES:**

- After School/Summer Youth Activities
- Arts and Crafts
- Food Distribution
- Gang Prevention
- Girls/Boys Club
- Graffiti Paint Out
- Juvenile Probation
- Home Supervision
- Peer Counseling
- MET Theatre Ensemble
- Senior Nutrition Program
- Social Development Center
- Tutoring Program
- Youth Employment
- MYEEP/SYETP
- Job Readiness
- ZAP Project (substance abuse day treatment for adolescents)

All services and activities FREE  
Member agency of the United Way of the Bay Area

The NABE is wheelchair accessible. If you have the need for the services of a certified American Sign Language Interpreter, or a sound enhancement system, or meeting in an alternative format please contact (415) 826-8080 at least three working days prior

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# Potrero Hill School of the Arts Begins Second Year As Part of New Program

By Mary Jane Mikuriya

The Potrero Hill Middle School has begun its second year as a Middle School for the Arts, and as with the first year of the program, the school is attracting students well beyond the Potrero Hill neighborhood.

Of the entering sixth graders, this year some 20 percent live in the Potrero Hill area, with about twice as many from the Mission District and about a dozen students each from the Bayview District and Visitation Valley.

The seventh grade, reflecting the first class to enter the school after it was designated a School of the Arts (SOTA) in 1997, shows only 12 percent of the students live in the neighborhood. Of the eighth graders, about 15 percent are Hill residents. Overall, about 15 percent of the students live on Potrero Hill.

To be able to enroll in the school, each student must make out an application, be a serious student academically and be able to demonstrate talent in the arts.

Many students who enrolled in the school in its first year under the SOTA program indicated it was the arts program that attracted them. All students who were enrolled in art, drama, dance, band, strings, choir and computer programs attended performances and were engaged by artists-in-residence in the classrooms.

A grant from the Bay Area California Arts Project supported joint faculty meetings with high school SOTA faculty to explore issues related to arts-based education. High school SOTA students

volunteered in classrooms as part of their community service, learning to coach and mentor middle school students in the arts.

In the past, noted SOTA Principal Joe Rosenblatt, perhaps only one student from Potrero Hill Middle School had been admitted to the SOTA high school. But this year, following one year under the School of the Arts program, five freshmen from the Potrero Hill Middle School were admitted to SOTA on the high school level.

The Potrero Hill Middle School of the Arts began its school year with two new administrators, Principal Glide Pascual and Assistant Principal Luz Valente.

Pascual began in the district as a music teacher, has worked as a special education teacher and most recently served as principal of Luther Burbank Middle School. She told **The View** that she feels as if she is coming home to the arts, and sees the arts as a way to engage students academically while supporting positive student self-concepts. She hopes to make the Potrero Hill Middle School for the Arts a major "feeder school" to the SOTA high school.

Valente is a native San Franciscan who had lived on Pennsylvania Avenue on Potrero Hill and had attended St. Teresa's School and Church. She worked as a teacher and administrator in the Sacramento area, but when her parents decided to return to Nicaragua and leave their house to her, she jumped at the chance to return to San Francisco.

She has been working in San Francisco since October, 1997, first for the Language Academy and then at Luther

Burbank School. Having been the school sponsor for Ballet Folklorico student groups and discovering as a teacher that students respond with creativity when arts are used in assignments, Valente is delighted to be at PHMSOTA.

Renee French, the continuing Assistant Principal, studied piano at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music for seven years, is currently a docent of Special Events at the Palace of the Legion of Honor and was the Principal of the Magnet School of the Arts at James Denman Middle School. She reports that this past year was a busy year working on integrating the arts into the curriculum, having artists demonstrate in classes, visiting museums and art programs, having student performances and opening many conversations and cooperative arrangements with the community.

For example, the San Francisco Conservatory of Music donated violins and brought its orchestra to play for students. The San Francisco Symphony demonstrated for string and instrument classes. Opera a la Carte worked with students to develop mini-performances on stage, in which opera singers had major parts and students had speaking roles.

There was also the pilot program with the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) in which MOMA provided free student memberships, shuttle buses to and from the museum on Saturdays, and art mentors. Art experiences included African drumming and Dance with an Artists-in-Residence, gospel singing, film and video production, and classical ensemble music.

One of the Architects-in-the-Schools classes developed a design for an empty lot, which was presented to city planners and was exhibited last May. Students attended the San Francisco Opera, Ballet, the Palace of the Legion of Honor and Family Events at MOMA.

In three years, staff hope to have a program in place that integrates the arts and academic subjects. This year, after one year of experience, a leadership team will develop a long range plan aimed at improving test scores, behavioral changes, student skills in the arts and admittance to high schools of their choice.



## NEIGHBORHOOD

## ALERT !!

We're down to the wire. You gotta do this NOW. Help us keep the deal to buy Esprit Park together—write to da Mayor IMMEDIATELY !! Here is a letter you can send or write one of your own.

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Dear Mayor Brown,  
Please help us get Esprit Park. We are calling on you to broker a purchase contract with the owners of Esprit de Corp. Time is of the essence. This is a critical issue and your leadership is urgently needed.

Sincerely,



## ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE AT RISK

# **Now's the Time to Get Your Flu Shots**

Fall is the time to focus our attention on the upcoming flu season, which reaches its height from December through March.

Most people are ill with flu for only a few days, but others can become seriously ill from secondary bacterial infections that can cause pneumonia. Some 20,000 people nationwide die every year from flu or related complications.

Influenza type A and B viruses have the ability to change their antigenic component each year. Therefore the flu vaccine is modified yearly and recommended each year for high risk individuals and groups to prevent health prob-

lems caused by these viruses. This year, the flu vaccine contains strains of A/Beijing/262/95, A/Sydney/5/97 and B/Beijing/184/93.

Those at greatest risk for complications who should receive the vaccine are:

- \* Adults and children with chronic heart or lung disease (including asthma) who must have regular medical follow-up or have been hospitalized in the past year;
- \* Nursing home residents or institutional patients with chronic medical conditions;
- \* Otherwise healthy persons aged 65

and older;

\* Those with diabetes, kidney problems, immunosuppression, severe anemias, organ transplants, HIV infection;

\* Children six months to 18 years of age on long term aspirin therapy;

\* Health care providers who work with high risk patients and family members or caretakers of at-risk people.

Contrary to popular belief, the vaccine will not cause the flu, because it is made from "killed" vaccine. Side effects include soreness at site of injection, headache and/or low grade fever. Those who are allergic to eggs should not take the

vaccine. It takes about two weeks for your body to develop protection after vaccination.

The Potrero Hill Center will be holding special "Flu Shot Days" from 9 to 11 a.m. on the following dates: November 12, 13, 19, 20 and 30. Vaccinations will also be given at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House December 3, from 9 a.m. to noon. If you are interested in finding out more about the influenza vaccine, please contact the Caleb G. Clark Potrero Hill Health Center at 1050 Wisconsin St., (415) 648-3022.

**Laura Quan McCarthy, RN, MS**  
**Family Nurse Practitioner**  
**Caleb Clark Potrero Hill Health Center**

## **SF Food Bank Seeks Donations, Volunteers To Help at Holidays**

The San Francisco Food Bank — which is located on Pennsylvania Avenue — is seeking donations of turkeys and other food for families and individuals in need this holiday season. The Food Bank will distribute this food through its network of more than 400 human service agencies with food assistance or meal programs in San Francisco.

Agencies served by the Food Bank have requested 3,400 turkeys. Most of these turkeys will be served at soup kitchens, senior programs, shelters and other programs that serve meals on site.

Agencies have also requested thousands of holiday food boxes for low-income families who have their own cooking facilities. Each holiday food box feeds a family of four. The Food Bank plans to distribute 6,000 holiday boxes divided equally between Thanksgiving

and Christmas. Food donations can be dropped off at the Food Bank at 900 Pennsylvania Ave. on the Hill, or you can underwrite the purchase of a turkey or holiday box by calling (415) 282-1900.

The donations of turkeys and other items will be packaged in holiday food boxes that will be distributed by the Food Bank. The holiday food boxes, which can be prepared at home, will enable families to celebrate their religious or cultural holiday on the appropriate day. Holiday food will also be distributed to more than 1,700 low-income seniors in the Food Bank's Brown Bag Program.

The Food Bank is also seeking volunteers to help those in need this holiday season. Volunteers can help in various ways including:

- \* Assembling holiday food boxes for low-income families and individuals in crisis;
- \* Sorting food for distributions to AIDS service providers, after-school programs, battered women's shelters, homeless shelters, soup kitchens and other agencies that assist people in need;
- \* Helping drivers deliver and pick up food collection barrels at locations throughout the city;
- \* Answering telephones, entering data and providing office support.

Anyone interested in donating turkeys, underwriting holiday boxes or volunteering may call the San Francisco Food Bank at (415) 282-1900.



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**UCSF**  
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THE JOSEPH CHIOWNING GALLERY is having a Holiday Exhibition and sale, Oct. 31 through Dec. 19, at 1717 - 17th Street. Phone 626-7496 for more information.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION SUPPORT GROUPS will meet Nov. 17 and Dec. 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. for open discussion of topics of interest to families and caregivers of persons suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Sessions take place at St. Francis Hospital, 900 Hyde St., Second Floor, Rooms C and D. For more information, call Chris Shaheen at 353-6568.

PRECITA EYES MURAL ARTS CENTER is now offering its BART Mural Walks every Saturday at 11 a.m. The tour starts at the 24th Street BART Station and covers more than 50 murals in the 10-block walk through the Mission District, including mural sites at the Mission Cultural Center, Cesar Chavez Elementary School, and Balmy Alley, and concluding at the Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center. Cost is \$5, \$4 for seniors and \$1 for those under 18 years of age. For more information call 285-2287.

FRIENDS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY announce a two-day bargain book sale. All books are fifty cents or one dollar. These are not library books. The sale is at Fort Mason Center, Building A, Saturday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds help support the Main and neighborhood branch libraries and many other programs in the community. Check out the bookstore for new, used and collectible books, open seven days a week, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., in Building C in the Fort Mason Center.

JEWISH HOME FOR THE AGED IS CALLING for volunteers to help in its activity programs. Placements include working in the Gift Shop, Garden Cafe, Coffee Bar and dealing blackjack or calling bingo. For more information call 334-2500.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY BRECHT," a new play commemorating the 100th birthday of playwright Bertold Brecht, will premiere in San Francisco Nov. 3 at the Theater Artaud, 450 Florida St., continuing from Nov. 5 - 8. The play will be performed as a benefit for "Send a Piano to Havana," a project that sends pianos to schools and kids in Cuba. "Happy Birthday Brecht" consists of excerpts from the famous artist's writings, his plays, letters, diaries, songs, poems and his testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee. The play features the music of Kurt Weill, Hans Eisler and Brecht himself. Tickets are \$15; \$10 for students and seniors, with a special ticket price of \$8 for the Nov. 3 show. Call 621-7797 for performance times and reservations.

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SHANTI STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP, because people still have AIDS. Volunteers are needed to help run errands, shop, clean, cook, laugh, cry, talk, go on walks, share, hope, listen, and provide emotional and practical support to people with HIV/AIDS in San Francisco. The next training for volunteers takes place two weekends, Nov. 6, 7, 8, and 14 and 15. Call 487-4722 to apply.

SAN FRANCISCO WOMEN AGAINST RAPE is offering a free 12-hour self-defense course for women in the Tenderloin District. This class will be translated into Vietnamese. It meets every Saturday in the month of November. For more information call 861-2024, ext. 304.

WOMEN OF ALL AGES facing a major change in their lives (divorce, job downsizing, menopause, retirement, widowhood) are invited to an informational meeting leading to creation of ongoing support groups. No fee. Saturday, Nov. 14, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary. For further information call the Older Women's League at 989-4422.

EXHIBIT AT LINN GALLERY FEATURES SF BALLET. A rare look inside the SF Ballet will be on display Nov. through Dec. 31, at the LINN Gallery, 292 Townsend Street. Sandra Lee and Thomas Hunt have been photographing and interviewing dancers in preparation for their new book, "At The Ballet: Onstage, Backstage," available in bookstores this fall. The exhibit is timed to coincide with the release of the book and will include custom installations, large format prints, excerpts from interviews and limited edition photo portfolios. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and by appointment. Call 553-4467.

The Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) will honor gay veterans of former wars on November 8 at noon at Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero St. The potluck, open to all older gay men, is especially seeking new attendees. Listen or share war-time stories, including "coming out" military-style. Bring a dish or beverage to share. If you want, bring a photo of yourself in uniform. For info call GLOE (415) 255-2937.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY of Armistice Day, on Nov. 11 the Fine Arts Museums, in collaboration with the Veterans Administration Medical Center and the Holocaust Memorial, presents special programming at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor. The general public is also invited to a health fair from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Vets Medical Center, during which laboratory screening will be offered for cholesterol levels, blood pressure levels, and other health indicators. Shuttle buses will make the circuit from the Medical Center to the Legion of Honor. The museum program begins at 10 a.m. with a formal program at 11 a.m.; children's programs at noon — including the creation of a "peace wall," peace flags for the children of Yugoslavia, and release of white doves at the Legion's fountain. Programs continue through 8:45 p.m. For more info call 750-3614.

ZEUM, A NEW CENTER FOR THE ARTS and technology for city youth, located on top of the Moscone Center, presents its first performance commission, "RE: Place," an extravagant carnival of arrival, departure and return. It is a free outdoor event, and features a multi-generational cast of 60 dancers, musicians, fools, clowns and travelers in a many-layered story about the search for home. Nov. 14-15 and 21-22, at 2 p.m., outdoors at ZEUM, 221 Howard St. Call 777-2800 for more info.

CHRISTMAS IN APRIL is seeking low-income San Francisco homeowners in need of home repairs for its 10th annual Rebuilding Day. On April 24, 1999, thousands of volunteers from business, labor and the community will come together in neighborhoods throughout the city to repair and refurbish the homes of their low-income, elderly and disabled neighbors. All work is free of charge. Everyone is urged to get involved, as a homeowner, volunteer or sponsor. Call 905-1611.

UCSF WILL HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING Nov. 5 to discuss and hear comments on the draft master campus plan and the proposed design for the first two research laboratory buildings at the new Mission Bay campus site. UCSF expects to begin construction at 16th and Owens Streets in late 1999. Following a presentation by campus planners, the public will be invited to comment on the proposed designs. The meeting will take place Thursday, Nov. 5, at the ILWU Local 34 Hall, 4 Berry St., near 2nd and King Streets.

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THE MARSH PRESENTS CLASSES FOR KIDS in drama and art. Children will learn basic theater skills through movement, song and improvisation, and rehearse a short play. K-1 classes will be Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m., Nov. 12 thru Dec. 15. Classes cost \$40 - \$68 on a sliding scale. In the art classes children will make puppets, masks, puppets and more, primarily using recycled materials. Classes for children from 7 to 12 will be from 4-5 p.m. and for children 2-6, from 5-6 p.m. Classes cost \$40-\$60 for all six weeks or \$10 per person per class. All classes are held at The Marsh, 1062 Valencia St. Call 826-5750, ext. 2.

SAN FRANCISCO ZOO DOCENT ORIENTATION will offer information on training classes Saturday, Nov. 7, at 10 a.m. After training, docent volunteers can lead Zoo tours, teach children's classes or visit Bay Area schools with animals in the Zoomobile. The orientation is a prelude to the 15-week training period every Saturday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., starting January 19. Participants are educated about nearly 250 species of animals, wildlife conservation, ecological issues and other related topics. Call Zoo Education Department at 753-7073.

SF PUBLIC LIBRARY presents, through Nov. 30, a program entitled "Through My Father's Eyes," a visual tour of Filipino urban and rural communities as seen and experienced by Ricardo Alvarado. During the 40s and 50s, Alvarado photographed Filipino Americans participating in their communities through dance, banquets, weddings and funerals. It will be in the Main Library, Jewett Gallery, and an adjunct exhibition of material about Alvarado will be on display at the Main Library's Filipino American Center. Call 557-4277.

PREVENT BLINDNESS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA offers free adult vision screening Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at its offices at 4200 California Street, Room 117. The screening is free but appointments are necessary to avoid long waits. Call 387-0934 for an appointment. Glaucoma can be stopped and controlled with treatment if detected in time. Older people, African Americans and diabetics have a higher risk of contracting glaucoma.

#### IN MEMORIAM

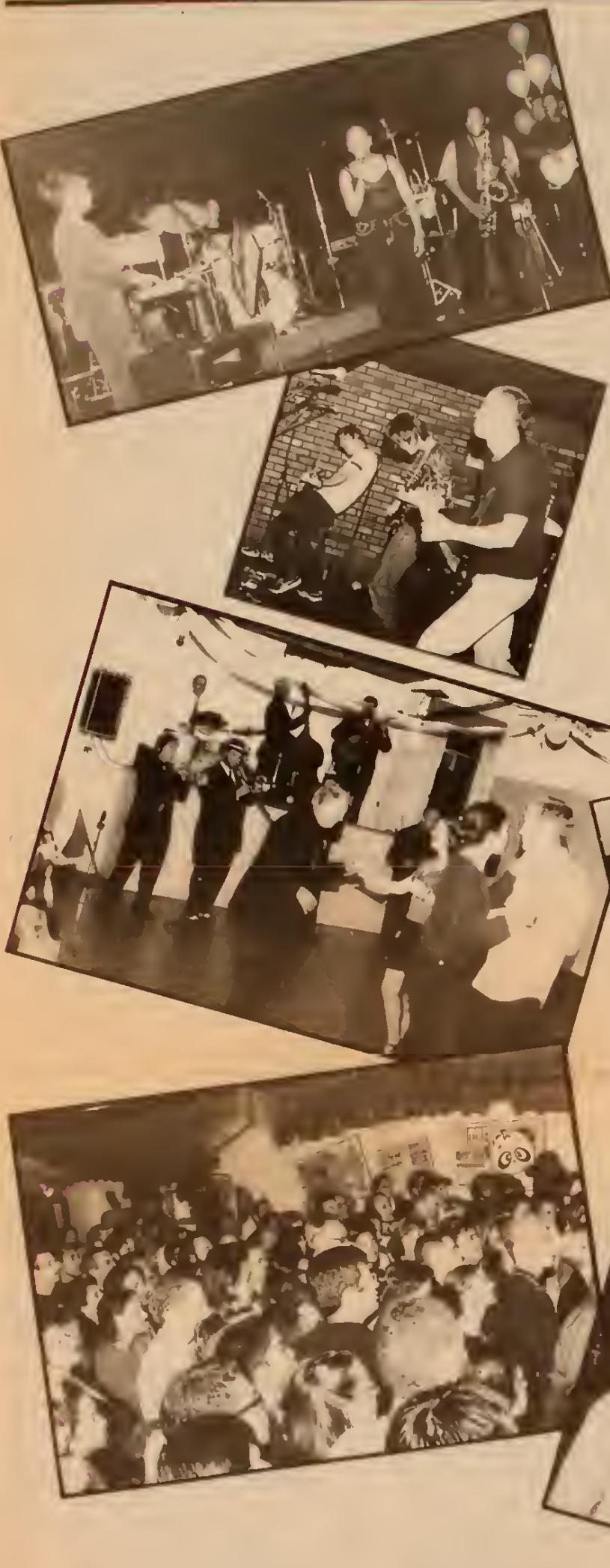
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## HUNDREDS ENJOY ENTERTAINMENT AT HILL FESTIVAL

Hundreds of people enjoyed the sights and sounds on Patrero Hill as they travelled around the neighborhood on motorized cable cars October 10. Organized and sponsored by the Potrero Hill Merchants Assn. to benefit the Patrero Hill Neighborhood House, the evening events took guests to clubs and venues from the top of De Haro Street to Chino Basin. The festivities were kicked off at a VIP reception held at the Neighborhood House, at which guests were treated to a variety of foods donated by a number of local food establishments and wine and beer distributors, as well as entertainment. Then, as the first of four cable cars arrived at the front door of the "Nabe," revelers boarded and rode to any one of 12 destinations to hear and see a variety of entertainment through the night. The event's major contributors included Center Hardware, the World Gym, Budweiser, Catellus Development Corp., Economy Restaurant Fixtures, Cresca Restaurant Equipment, UCSF, Caravan, Bottom of the Hill, Lucky Strike Co., Patrero Nuevo, and Goot Hill Pizza.

Photos this page by Chris Arnald

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Come master Shorin-ryu Shorinikan Okinawan Karate as a discipline to preserve life and to develop your highest potential!
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# Premiere of 'Hubba City' Slated for Nov. 19 at Nabe

The Before Columbus Foundation and the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House will present the San Francisco premiere of Ishmael Reed's "Hubba City," directed by Vern Henderson, with a gala opening and preview on Thursday, November 19, at 8 p.m. at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

In his satirical play, "Hubba City," Reed, one of America's most gifted writers and winner of a 1998 MacArthur Foundation "genius" award, creates a modern-day Harriet Tubman who is fed up with the drugs and crime in her neighborhood and goes downtown to wake up sleeping politicians to the insanity of drugs.

Reed speaks about drugs in the community from personal experience. In 1987 he returned to his Oakland neighborhood after teaching at Harvard for a semester. What he found was that his home, and the surrounding areas had been seized by an extensive drug operation. "Hubba City" was created to show that drug trafficking is bigger than just "dope pushers" you see on the streets. "Hubba" is a street term for crack cocaine.

Reed's play points out that any city in America can become "Hubba City," and

through the use of satire, Reed shows that inner cities across America are dealing with this problem, and through community action positive change can occur.

"Hubba City" had its world premiere at Berkeley's Black Repertory Group in 1989 and went on to play at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe in New York City in 1996.

In the play Reed makes the case that the police, politicians, and the media consider crack a problem within the African American community, and often turn a blind eye to its effect on low-income neighborhoods.

"I chose to do "Hubba City" at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House because of my concern about the demise of American ethnic theatre," Reed noted. "Through the use of my MacArthur Foundation Award, I will continue to work with small community theatres to ensure that the legacy of ethnic theatre in America continues to grow."

The play will run Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 19 through Dec. 12, 8 p.m. at the Neighborhood House.

For more information call (510) 525-3948.



The cast of "Hubba City," Ishmael Reed's recent play, appears in performance at the Neighborhood House on November 19.



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### Reclaiming the Story: A New Look at the Old Testament

Weds., 7:30 pm, Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28

Before it was a religious document, the Old Testament was *story*. This lively, thoughtful conversation aims at re-telling and re-claiming these oldest of stories as our own.

### Scouting Out the Promised Land: Introducing Christianity

Sundays, 1:00 pm, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20

This basic introduction is for those who want to learn more about becoming God's friends. Learn about Christianity from its roots in Judaism to its creative, present-day life in a seeking community.

### Jesus and Paul: A Revolutionary New Look

Mon., 7:30 pm, Sept. 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16,

Jesus and Paul challenged the religious notions of their age and ours. New critical scholarship brings these teachers freshly alive in all the revolutionary power that can transform your life.

### Following the Way: The Mystical Path of the Ordinary (A Sufi Parable)

Mon., 7:30 pm, Oct. 12, 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16

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### Especially for Couples

Dates and times to be announced

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Weds., 7:30 pm, Nov. 4, 11, 18

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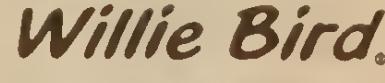
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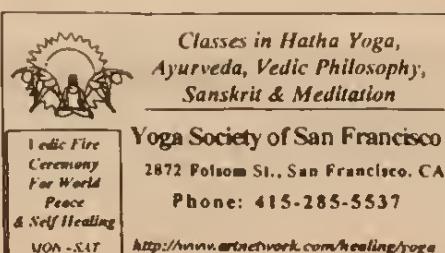
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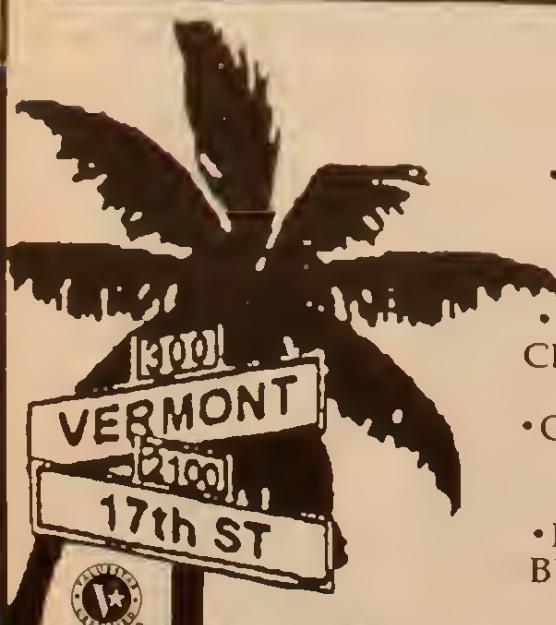
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116 Connecticut #1	890 Carolina
1096 Rhode Island	831 Wisconsin
1225 San Bruno	225 Texas
583 Missouri	1346 De Haro
1471 Rhode Island	357 Mississippi
1493 Kansas	1137-39 Kansas
20 Sierra	1423 Rhode Island
898 Wisconsin	509 Connecticut
1518 2Dth Street	780 Rhode Island
1640 2Dth Street	1116 Tennessee
348 Texas	1076 De Haro
1345 De Haro	861-61A Rhode Island
559-61 Wisconsin	979-981 Rhode Island
544-46 Mississippi	786 Arkansas
808-10 Arkansas	776 Rhode Island #101
(Twice)	1053 Carolina
648 Pennsylvania	622 San Bruno
573-75 Connecticut	609 Rhode Island
375 Texas	474 Mississippi
400 Missouri	531 Vermont
357 Arkansas	1400-02 Kansas
557 Vermont	834 Arkansas
847 Kansas	373 Arkansas

1081 De Haro
363 Missouri
905 Kansas #1 & #2
959 Kansas



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713 Rhode Island	2009 18th Straat	1027 Rhoda Island
	1236 De Haro	541 Missouri
	2124-26 22nd St.	828 Arkansas
	1409 20th Street	439 Connecticut
	829 Kansas	406 Mississippi
	712 Vermont	1023 Rhode Island
	806 Arkansas	368 Connecticut
	1419 Kansas	601 Missouri
	823-25 Kansas	145 Missouri
	556 Mississippi	525 Mississippi
	750 Rhode Island	556 Mississippi
	62 Blair Terrace	659-61 Connecticut
	1121 Wisconsin	301 Pennsylvania
	701 Vermont	685 Carolina
	901 Wisconsin	737 Carolina
	822 Arkansas #1	950 Wisconsin
	& #3 Madera	790 Arkansas
	884-86 De Haro	970 Wisconsin
	835 Kansas	765 Rhode Island
	559 Vermont	770 Rhode Island
	909 Wisconsin	776 Rhode Island
	1117 De Haro	830 Wisconsin
	2128-30 22nd St.	

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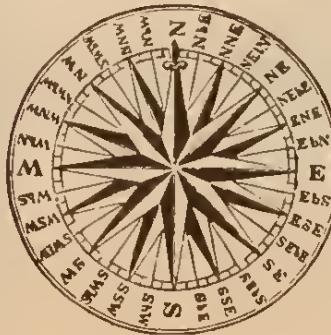
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